



# Recycle This! Newsletter

Newsletter of the Maine State Planning Office, Waste Management & Recycling Program \* September 2002



## Maine Recycles Week 2002

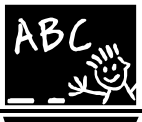
Maine Recycles Week 2002 (MRW 2002), November 8-15, is taking shape as a major recycling promotion campaign. Following is a brief summary of plans for MRW 2002. Also see the insert in this newsletter for more details regarding Maine Recycles Week, including a complete list of MRW 2002 Sponsors.

### Slogan:

***Recycle and Buy Recycled! It's easier than you think!***

## NEW! Pledge to Buy Recycled Content Paper

In an effort to involve municipalities and businesses in MRW 2002, the Steering Committee has created a Pledge to Buy Recycled Content Paper. Any town or businesses interested in making a commitment to recycling is invited to sign a pledge to develop a policy requiring the purchase of recycled content paper within the next fiscal year. Participating entities will receive a packet of information on buying recycled, including a list of recycled content paper sources, and will be recognized on the MRW web site at [www.recyclemaine.com](http://www.recyclemaine.com). (See the insert in this newsletter for more details.)



## School Programs

As in past years, schools are encouraged to participate in MRW 2002 in a variety of ways, including incorporating activities into their curriculum, holding special recycling events, working with the local recycling program to promote recycling in the community, participating in the MRW 2002 Poster Contest, and much more!

**Poster Contest:** Any student in grades K-12 is eligible to enter the MRW 2002 Poster Contest. One winner from each grade will be selected to create a *Recycle Maine! 2003 Calendar*. In addition, one of those entries will become next year's official MRW poster.

**Prizes:** Each school's participation will be judged by the MRW 2002 Steering Committee. (Extra points will be given to those schools that work with the local recycling program to promote recycling in the community.) The top three (cont'd on page 2)

## Money for Recycling?

On November 5th, the voters of Maine will have an opportunity to vote on several Bond requests, including the 'Environmental Bond' that includes a \$600,000 request for supporting public recycling capital investments and \$900,000 to support household hazardous wastes and universal waste (HHW/UW) management infrastructure development.



Recycling funds would be made available to communities through a cost sharing competitive grant process similar in most respects to the several previous recycling capital investment grant rounds of the 1990's. Examples for how the grants may be used to assist municipalities include:

- purchasing of processing, collection and materials handling equipment (balers, crushers, forklifts, etc.) for the preparation of recyclables for market;
- construction/expansion of recycling centers and storage facilities, such as additional loading docks at recycling centers to facilitate shipping of baled materials; and related actions/equipment;
- compost site development and related equipment;
- bins for curbside collection of recyclables; backyard composting bins.

For the HHW/UW portion, funding will cover the costs related to construction of facilities that will safely house the hazardous materials collected from residents until they are removed and recycled or disposed. Included in this category of materials are

- fluorescent lamps;
  - mercury fever thermometers;
  - mercury added products;
  - television sets, computers;
- (cont'd on page 2)

## Maine Recycles Week

*(cont'd from page 1)*

schools will each receive a \$500 cash prize. Five of the remaining schools will be chosen at random to receive \$200 cash prizes, and three additional schools will be randomly selected to receive free presentations by the Chewonki Foundation of their educational program, "Too Much Trash."

### Sponsorship

All of the new and existing elements of MRW 2002 are made possible by the tremendous support of the Maine business community and other interested organizations. Sponsorship funds will be used to print the 2003 calendars that will be distributed to municipalities, schools, and businesses across the state. Sponsorship money will also be used for the school prize fund. In addition, the Portland Press Herald is providing in-kind sponsorship in the form of a free quarter-page ad to be run in the weeks prior to MRW.

All sponsors are listed in the Maine Recycles Week insert in this newsletter.

### Special Events

As in past years, municipalities, businesses, schools, and other organizations are also encouraged to coordinate recycling related events during the week of November 8-15. If you would like to receive a free copy of the MRW 2002 Planning Guide, please contact SPO at 1-800-662-4545.



## Money for Recycling

*(cont'd from page 1)*

- PCB ballasts;
- as well as household cleaning chemicals, pesticides, flammables, and other toxics.

The HHW grant-supported programs will be coordinated with existing public waste management programs. SPO also anticipates funding some 'one-time' universal waste collection activities.

The State Planning Office has put in place two state-wide contracts for the safe removal and recycling of mercury added products and cathode ray tube (CRT) devices, such as TV's and computer monitors. Through these programs, these items are kept out of the general waste stream headed for disposal and are redirected to recycling operations or to hazardous waste facilities.

*There is currently a ban on disposal of mercury added products into the municipal solid waste stream that applies to commercial and industrial generators, with an expansion of that ban to residentially generated solid waste in January 2005.*

## SPO Program Update

SPO's Waste Management & Recycling Program staff are keeping busy with the following projects:

- **Preparing** for Maine Recycles Week 2002
- **Drafting** the 2001 Statewide Solid Waste Generation and Disposal Capacity Report
- **Updating** the 1998 Maine Solid Waste Management Plan (to be done every 5 years)
- **Aggregating** and analyzing municipal solid waste management program data for the year 2001
- **A review** of a number of long-term 'Pay As You Throw' programs and their stories, as well as that of more recently instituted programs
- **Chairing** a Study Group to Develop a Comprehensive Plan to Reduce Toxic Emissions and Expand Plastics Recycling
- **Staffing** a Legislative Study Commission looking at ways to improve the efficiencies of handling the containers collected and managed through the 'Bottle Bill'
- **Continuing** technical and financial support for programs to keep Universal Wastes and Mercury Added Products out of the municipal solid waste stream
- **Maintaining** a web site that receives thousands of 'hits' a month
- **Working** with two other state agencies, and a number of stakeholders, to design a funding mechanism to present to the Legislature for supporting municipally managed Household Hazardous Waste collection programs
- **Developing** Waste Management & Recycling Education Kits for distribution to Maine educators

## *It Costs What???*

### Variables Affecting MSW Management Costs

Municipal solid waste management programs typically reflect the needs and wants of the residents of the community. Each municipality has developed, either singularly or with others, a system that addresses their unique concerns, resulting in a myriad of arrangements and levels of municipal solid waste program services provided by communities.

It is of little surprise that the level of service being furnished directly impacts the costs of providing that municipal solid waste and recycling program. Some major service factors impacting costs are:

- How complete is the 'menu' of services offered?
- Is curbside trash and/or recyclable collection provided?
- Are 'drop-off' facilities for trash and/or recyclables furnished?
- Are residents responsible (partially/totally) for delivering trash to a transfer station/paying for its disposal (costs are incurred but not shown in budget)?
- The hours of facility operation and level of staffing
- Transportation costs for disposal of solid waste
- Are residents responsible (partially or totally) for paying the disposal costs related to the solid waste they generate?

- Processing and marketing of recyclables
- Debt payment for facilities, including landfill

Nearly 80% of Maine's communities use local tax dollars to pay for the disposal costs of the solid waste they manage. The disposal fees vary between landfills and incinerators but the range is \$50 to \$65 per ton. However, due to various types of contractual arrangements, including host community status, the actual tipping fee range is far greater.

Last year, the State Planning Office (SPO) began looking at solid waste and recycling from a 'per person' perspective, and this is included in the analysis section of the municipal report prepared by SPO. When looking at costs related to solid waste management, with regard to the level of service provided by the municipality, the following is found:

- Communities that offer minimal solid waste services and only pay for a portion of the solid waste generated, have per person costs in the range of \$25 to \$35.
- Communities that offer modest levels of solid waste services, including curbside trash/recyclables collection, have per person costs in the range of \$35 to \$45.

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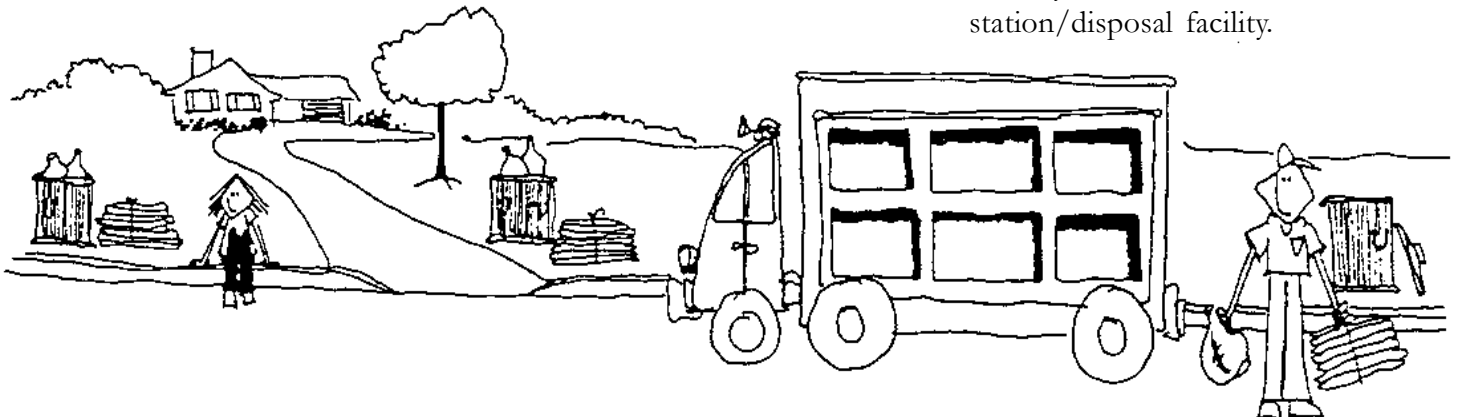
***Nearly 80% of Maine's communities use local tax dollars to pay for the disposal costs of the solid waste they manage.***

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- Communities that offer a fuller range of solid waste services, including fully staffed centers and longer hours of operation, have per person costs in the range of \$45 to \$65.

But even with this attempt at determining ranges of program costs, there are a number of additional special factors that may also directly impact costs, including: isolated communities and islands having higher transportation fees, and, small municipal programs with a higher 'per unit' operating fee.

In review, solid waste management costs vary greatly between communities due to the various program styles and levels of service offered residents and businesses. Even within one trash collection type (such as 'contracted curbside collection'), there is a wide range of 'per person' costs that reflect the nature of the community, such as urban versus rural setting, housing density, and distance to transfer station/disposal facility.



Maine State Planning Office  
Waste Management & Recycling Program  
38 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0038  
1-800-662-4545 or 207-287-8050  
[www.recyclemaine.com](http://www.recyclemaine.com)

## Coming Soon

The **ME DEP** will be conducting training on *Hazardous Waste and Special Waste* throughout the month of **September**. This is the third series of training sessions in the **Transfer Station Operators Training Program**. Contact Linda Butler at 207-287-2651 as soon as possible for more information. Dates and locations are as follows:

September 12 Presque Isle, North Eastland Hotel, Houlton Rd.  
September 17 Lewiston, Ramada Inn, 490 Pleasant St.  
September 19 Rockland, Trade Winds Hotel, Main St.  
September 24 Portland, Holiday Inn West, Riverside St. Turnpike Exit 8  
September 26 Bangor, Spectacular Events Center, 395 Griffin Rd.

The **Maine Municipal Association's 66th Annual Conference** will take place **October 16-18, 2002** at the **Bangor Civic Center**. Visit the MMA web site at [www.memun.org](http://www.memun.org) for more information or call 623-8428.

The **Northeast Recycling Council (NERC) Fall Conference** will be held **November 5-7** in **Hartford, CT**. For more information, visit the NERC web site at [www.nerc.org](http://www.nerc.org).

**November 8-15 is Maine Recycles Week 2002!** Contact Shannon Haines at 1-800-662-4545 for more info and free resources to help you celebrate or visit [www.recyclemaine.com](http://www.recyclemaine.com).

# Celebrate Maine Recycles Week!

**NOVEMBER 8-15, 2002**

***Recycle and Buy Recycled! It's easier than you think!***

**Participate in MRW 2002 by making a  
Pledge to Buy Recycled Content Paper.**

***It's easier than you think!***



**SCHOOLS,  
MUNICIPALITIES,  
BUSINESSES,  
INDIVIDUALS!**

If your municipality, school or business is interested in making a pledge to buy recycled paper, visit the MRW web site at [www.recyclemaine.com](http://www.recyclemaine.com) to pledge online or call the State Planning Office at 1-800-662-4545 for more information. When you pledge to buy recycled office paper, you will receive a free guide to buying recycled, including a list of recycled content paper suppliers.

Remember, when you buy recycled content products, you help to create healthy markets for the materials that we all work so hard to recycle. If you already purchase recycled content products, let us know about it!

All pledging entities will be recognized on the Maine Recycles Week web site.

## **Get Your Free Maine Recycles Week 2002 Resources!**

If you would like any of the following free resources to help in your efforts to celebrate Maine Recycles Week, please contact Rhonda Cartledge at 1-800-662-4545 or go to [www.recyclemaine.com](http://www.recyclemaine.com) to fill out our online request form.

- Maine Recycles Week 2002 Posters (16"x24")
- Maine Recycles Week 2002 Planning Guide (ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE)
- MRW 2002 Curriculum Packet (ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE)
- Business and Municipal Guide to Buying Recycled (ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE)

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## **MAINE RECYCLES WEEK 2002 SPONSORS**

The Maine Recycles Week 2002 Steering Committee thanks the following sponsors for their support:

### ***Premier Sponsors:***

Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments, Maine Resource Recovery Association, Maine Turnpike Authority, Penobscot Energy Recovery Company, Portland Press Herald/Maine Sunday Telegram, Waste Management, Inc., Maine State Planning Office

### ***Champion Sponsors***

Bath Iron Works, Commercial Paving and Recycling, The Chewonki Foundation, Domtar Industries, Inc., L.L. Bean, Mid-Maine Waste Action Corporation




### ***Supporting Sponsors***

The Colony Hotel, DeLorme, Great Northern Recycling, Inc., Northeast Delta Dental, Northern Maine Solid Waste Management Committee




# **CELEBRATE MRW AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

## **Recycle and Buy Recycled!**




### **Municipalities**

-  Hold a special recycling related event during the week of November 8-15. Call 1-800-662-4545 or go online at [www.recyclemaine.com](http://www.recyclemaine.com) for your free Planning Guide, chock-full of ideas that you can use.
-  Commit to purchasing recycled content office paper for your municipal offices. You can even piggy-back on the State or MMA contracts for competitive prices.
-  Ask your elected official(s) to make a public proclamation of Maine Recycles Week 2002 in your community.



### **Businesses**

-  Commit to purchasing recycled content office paper for your office. Contact SPO at 1-800-662-4545 for your free guide and a list of suppliers.
-  Implement an office-wide recycling program.
-  Hold a special recycling related event at your workplace.

### **Schools**

-  Incorporate recycling and waste management activities into your curriculum for the week.
-  Participate in the MRW 2002 Poster Contest.
-  Commit to purchasing recycled content office and computer paper.

### **Individuals**

-  Volunteer to serve on your local Recycling Committee. If your community doesn't have one, form one!
-  Make a point to look for recycled content products during Maine Recycles Week, then regularly.

***Please call the State Planning Office at 1-800-662-4545 or go online at [www.recyclemaine.com](http://www.recyclemaine.com) for your free MRW 2002 resources, including a planning guide, posters, and more!***

## **Maine Recycles Week 2002 Steering Committee**

- Diane Doe, SHAREcenter (Auburn)
- Sigrid Houlette, Northern Maine Development Commission (Caribou)
- Pat Maloney, Project Learning Tree (Augusta)
- John Rankins, Commercial Paving & Recycling (Scarborough)
- John Albertini, Maine Resource Recovery Association (Bangor)
- Jeff Pratt, Waste Management, Inc.
- Shannon Haines, State Planning Office
- Tom Miragliuolo, State Planning Office

*Special thanks to the following members who left the committee due to new employment opportunities:*

- Morgan Harriman, formerly with the City of Lewiston
- Scott Cavanagh, formerly with Guilford of Maine

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## **SHAREcenter to Offer a Trash-To-Art Workshop**

SHAREcenter in Auburn is putting on a fun thought-provoking workshop to promote Maine Recycles Week. The workshop is being advertised through Auburn Adult Education:

### **Maine Recycles Week:**

#### **Creations for Our Upcoming Celebration**

Tuesday, October 22, 6:30-8:30 PM  
at Edward Little High School, Rm. 141  
Fee: \$10 Registration at 784-9220

Come take part in a sensory experience that will replenish your spirit and inspire an inside-out look at how a "throw away" can go "on display"! Each participant will receive a base to build on.

An abundance of recycled and reusable items will be arranged for you to design and create an original work of art. All creations will be displayed (with your permission) for public view and celebration for Maine's 4th Annual Maine Recycles Week from November 8th to the 15th. Grab your share of the fun – recycling is as easy as 1-2-3!